

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. CON. RES. 178

Expressing the sense of Congress that we honor, commemorate and celebrate the historic ties of the United States and the Netherlands by recognizing the Quadricentennial celebration of the discovery of the Hudson River and the settlement and enduring values of New Netherland which permeate American society up until today.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 31, 2009

Mr. VAN HOLLEN (for himself and Mr. HOEKSTRA) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of Congress that we honor, commemorate and celebrate the historic ties of the United States and the Netherlands by recognizing the Quadricentennial celebration of the discovery of the Hudson River and the settlement and enduring values of New Netherland which permeate American society up until today.

Whereas the Netherlands and the United States are two countries with one spirit united by values, history and a vision for the future;

Whereas 2009 marks the Quadricentennial year that Henry Hudson captained the ship “Halve Maen”, under the auspices of the Dutch East India Company, and discovered the Hudson River;

Whereas the discovery of that river and its fertile lands gave rise to the establishment of the New Netherland settlement and the ensuing historical ties between the Netherlands and America;

Whereas the Netherlands was the first country to salute the U.S. flag in 1776 at St. Eustatius; influenced the Declaration of Independence and has remained a friend and staunch ally ever since, from providing necessary loans during the Revolutionary War to standing shoulder-to-shoulder in Afghanistan in defense of values and rule of law;

Whereas the New Netherland settlement left a legacy of values such as openmindedness, entrepreneurship, democracy, tolerance and hard work, as well as freedom of religion and speech;

Whereas the bonds of free trade, open markets and commerce have continuously linked the Netherlands and Americans to such an extent that the Netherlands remains among the top four foreign investors in the U.S.;

Whereas the Netherlands provided assistance in the aftermath of Katrina and today is sharing expertise in water management and helping to rebuild New Orleans and its levees; and

Whereas the heritage of 400 years of friendship between the Netherlands and the United States is a laudable example and should be properly extolled: Now, therefore, be it

- 1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
- 2 *concurring)*, That it is the sense of Congress that we
- 3 honor, commemorate and celebrate the historic ties and
- 4 friendship between the United States and the Netherlands

1 by recognizing the Quadricentennial celebration of the dis-
2 covery of the Hudson River and the settlement and endur-
3 ing values of New Netherland which permeate American
4 society up until today.

